

COUNTY OF RAVALLI



**Ravalli County Commissioners
215 South 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT 59870**

January 3, 2008

Lowell Whitney
Montana Geographic Names Advisor
MT Department of natural resources and Conservation
2705 Spurgin Road
Missoula, MT 59804-3199

Dear Mr. Whitney:


The Ravalli County Board of Commissioners has received your letter in relation to the renaming of a local feature in the valley. The local name at this time is Squaw Peak and the proposal to rename the peak is Whe-lha-kleh-tseen Mountain.

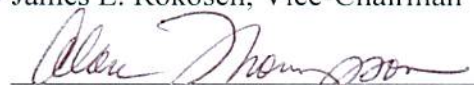
While we are certainly in favor of changing the name and are also in favor of recognizing one of the Native Americans who inhabited this valley, we are not comfortable with the chosen name. The reason is that we are concerned that the new name will not be used by the general public and they will revert to calling the feature by its former name and thus the name change will not serve its purpose.

Our concern is instead of referring to the new name, the public will refer to it as (the mountain that used to be Squaw Peak). We hope you understand our view on this matter.

Sincerely,


Carlotta Grandstaff, Chairman


James E. Rokosch, Vice-Chairman


Alan Thompson, Member


Greg Chilcott, Member


Kathleen Driscoll, Member